

16 January 1963

Dear Ed,

My apologies for being in arrears in my correspondence. The Holidays always seem to be a poor time to catch up on one's mail. First of all I wish to express my appreciation for your lengthy reply regarding the activities which took place in Denver in late November. We certainly didn't want our young friend to remain here but rather that he should do his work at home for the cause in more productive surroundings. However, it was quite proper for you to sound him out and let things take their natural course. The matter of decision in this instance was a challenging one which he probably, quite sincerely, could not make. So be it. There is always the possibility that given a period of time many impressions and thoughts gleaned while here will ferment.

A few questions come to mind which at your convenience you may be able to answer. In your encounter with our young-friend you mentioned having given him a note. Was it in your handwriting and do you feel that he destroyed it? Naturally your role with respect to our friend should have been a natural one. If he was not honest with you, would your role likely cause raised eyebrows among his superiors if he discussed the matter with them. It was best to leave the day to day matters pretty much in your sons' hands. I recall your mentioned someone by the name of Poty or Patty being introduced by Juris to our friend. Was this Mr. Ritums? Could you further enlighten me with respect to this individual?

What was the general nature of advice given to you by Fred Wilt's people when you talked with them in November? I am not interested in your subsequent discussion and I commend you for keeping [redacted] out of the picture.

Do you think that your sons could provide more biographical information on our friend and impressions as to his personality? Maybe during a casual get together you might review the matter. I realize that time was limited. Again it is always best to adopt a go slow attitude and not to raise the issue with a stranger suddenly. Working with unknown quantities brings many variables into play. We can only plan for the future and hope to see some positive results.

I regret that the kind efforts of your wife to provide some hospitality was so unceremoniously turned down at the last minute. As the golfing fraternity would say: "That's

par for the course." However, the gesture was a proper one and had the invitation been accepted I am sure that it would have been a highlight of their entire itinerary.

The run down on others who met the visitors and the background of these people was most interesting and enlightening. Good work.

Regarding your second letter let me express my regrets that the job in California did not turn out as planned. Recently I saw something in the paper that your school has been named as one where athletes from South America will be trained. This seems to be synonymous with what we discussed earlier and the logical outgrowth of your talks with Fred and his friends. If Denver is one of the participating schools, they will have to have something more than intramural competition to attract track men. Keep your chin up and if necessary stick it out another year for it may be that the future for track coaches will brighten considerably as more emphasis is placed nationally upon physical fitness.

We shall cross our fingers on Mr. Treknais' memory. Concerning the local Estonians I would be interested in the name of the local gentleman who married the Latvian girl and any others who are regarded as solid citizens. Please don't burden yourself with the matter but I would welcome the information.

Is it possible to learn the name of the book on rockets and who the Latvian might be that translated it?

If you think it is not too late, you might send F. Bernsons a New Years card or a namesday card. Keep your greeting to a minimum. Don't be disturbed by the Daugavas Vanagi book. It is just another item designed to frighten people and to try to destroy the work of many good citizens. Even ministers are not immune as you can gather from the other publication.

I have seen some mention of our friend's return home. Nothing much in detail and not unkindly stated. We shall see what more follows.

Keep up the good work. We appreciate your efforts.

With best regards,